



STATE EMERGENCY—Water from the flooding Wabash River seeps through a levee at Terre Haute, Ind., where about 5000 persons are engaged in round-the-clock sand-bagging to prevent further damage. Indiana's Governor Harold Handley has declared an emergency.

Annual Shortage of Blood Soon To Be Felt By Supply Centers

By LOUIS CASSELL

United Press International
Washington—(UPI)—Some-
where in America, in the next
few weeks, newspapers will

carry a head-
line that will
shock many
readers.

It will say,
in effect:

"Blood
shortage
forces local
hospitals to
suspend all

Louis Cassell's operations ex-
cept emergencies."

"It happens every sum-
mer," an official of the Amer-
ican Red Cross explained.

"The regular donors go away
on vacation and the supply of
blood falls off. Then the hos-
pitals encounter an unusual

run of accidents or surgical
cases, and the regional blood
bank finds its reserve stocks
dropping to the danger point."

The Red Cross usually is
able to meet the crisis by ap-
pealing through newspapers
and broadcasting stations for
blood donors to come on the
run. And if the worst comes

to worst, the temporarily
bankrupt blood bank can bor-
row an emergency supply
from another regional center.

But the perennial recur-
rence of these shortages dem-
onstrates the narrow margin
that always exists between
the amount of blood that hos-
pitals need, and the amount
that healthy Americans are
willing to give through the
Red Cross and other agencies.

Does Can Be Serious

Even a temporary interrup-
tion of supply at the giving
end can be serious. Blood can
be stored only 21 days before
the red cells deteriorate. Af-
ter that it can be used to pro-
duce blood fractions such as
plasma and gamma globulin.

But it is useless for whole
blood transfusions.

Keeping the life line filled
has become one of the major
responsibilities of the Red
Cross since its civilian blood
program was inaugurated 10
years ago.

Through its 31 regional
blood centers, the Red Cross
collects about 60 per cent of
all the blood used in hospi-
tals themselves, by commu-
nity blood banks operated by
non-profit agencies other than
the Red Cross, and by com-
mercial blood banks.

Commercial banks charge
from \$25 to about \$50 a pint
of blood. The average price
is about \$35 a pint. These
banks collect blood from paid
donors.

The Red Cross never charges
a penny for blood. This
statement, often made and
often challenged, requires
some explanation. It costs the
Red Cross about \$5 a pint to
collect and distribute blood,
even though the blood itself
is given free by volunteer
donors. The money goes to
pay nurses and doctors who
staff the blood centers, for
bottles, syringes, and other
equipment, and for the pro-
cessing, storage and transpor-
tation of the blood.

For Cost Is Free

A few cents of its goes for
the fruit juice with which
donors are allied before they
bare their arms, and for the
doughnuts and coffee that
await them when they finish.

For the past several years,
hospitals in many parts of the
country have been underwrit-
ing part of the collecting
costs. The rest is paid by the
Red Cross out of the funds
contributed by the American
public in its annual appeal.

Hardly a day passes, how-
ever, without some outraged
citizen getting the idea that
the Red Cross is running some

kind of racket with its blood

program. What outrages the
citizen is the discovery that a
hospital has billed him for a
blood transfusion. The explana-
tion, which the Red Cross

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Commission Opens Bids on \$4,600,000 In Highway Projects

Salem—(UPI)—Bids on \$4,600,000 in highway projects were opened by the State Highway Commission here Tuesday.

Contracts will be awarded June 19 in Portland.

Apparent low bidder on the largest project was Roy L. Houck, Salem, who bid \$890,440 for 45 miles of grading and paving on Harbor drive in Portland.

Apparent low bidders on the remaining 25 projects by counties included:

Benton: Tom Lilebo, Reedsport, \$27,120 for a 133-foot deck girder bridge over Luckiamute river about one mile east of Hoskins.

Clatsop: Slate and Hall, Portland, \$468,850 for 2.54 miles grading and paving on the Wauna-Westport section of the Columbia river highway about 23 miles east of Astoria.

Coast Highway Work

Clatsop: United Contracting company, Portland, \$154,785 for 1.98 miles grading and paving on the Seaside section of the Oregon Coast highway.

Coos: Sig Anderson, Coos Bay, \$128,156 for a 443-foot bridge over the north fork of the Coquille river near Myrtle Point.

Coos: Woodward and Sons, Coquille, \$14,972 for .23 miles paving in Coquille.

Crook: Keystone construction company, Prineville, \$296,021 for 7.18 miles grading and paving on the Paulina secondary highway just west of Post.

Deschutes: Babler Brothers, Portland, \$109,500 for oiling projects on 12 county roads.

Douglas: Tom Lilebo, Reedsport, \$105,905 for Myrtle Creek interchange structure on the Myrtle Creek-Canyonville section of Pacific highway.

Jackson County Jobs

Jackson: Babler Brothers, Portland, \$353,602 for 4.52 miles grading, paving and structure on Green Springs highway about four miles southeast of Ashland.

Jackson: Rogue River Paving company, Medford, \$45,533 for 1.95 miles paving on Table Rock county road about six miles north of Medford.

Lane: T. C. Wildish, Eugene, \$42,901 for .78 miles grading and paving on McKenzie highway in Springfield.

Linn: Morris Brothers, Lebanon, \$58,820 for 3.63 miles paving and stone shoulders on the Albany-Brownsville county road about two miles south of Albany.

Marion: John A. Pfeifer, Silverton, \$14,998 for a maintenance building at Silverton.

Marion: Central Paving, Independence, \$161,553 for 3.09 miles grading and paving on Liberty county road about one mile south of Salem.

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Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Washington—Rep. Charles S. Gubser (R-Calif.) after expressing dismay at the "obvious glee" which he said newsmen showed at the gift-getting difficulties of Presidential Aide Sherman Adams:

"There is no greater group of freeloaders in the world than the press."

Trenton, N.J.—Gov. Robert B. Meyner of New Jersey, after revealing that he received a bolt of cloth at the 1955 governors' conference in Chicago, but didn't know whether it came from Boston industrialist Bernard Goldfine:

"People send me bolts of cloth from time to time. Frankly, I don't like to receive them. I prefer to buy my suits ready-made."

Ottawa—John Reitman, grand-uncle of two-year-old Joel Reitman, heir to a chain store fortune, after the child had been found unharmed after his abduction:

"The press was terrific. Nobody broke the release and nobody bothered us too much. They were very understanding. They were just wonderful."

Youths Fined in District Court

Donald D. Jones, 18, of 235 Laurel st., Central Point and Eugene Edward Feldman, 18 of Thomas rd., Medford, pleaded guilty in district court Monday afternoon to charges of petty larceny.

They were charged with taking radio knobs from the Rogue Service garage, 609 West McAndrews rd., Medford, on June 14, according to police.

They were fined \$55 each and given a suspended sentence of one year in the county jail.

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200 Mexicans Feared Drowned

Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico—(UPI)—Two hundred Mexican fishermen were feared drowned in a storm Monday off the Pacific coast near Oaxaca state when a sudden storm sank their fleet.

Chiapas state officials said the men, aboard 21 boats, disappeared without a trace when the storm caught them by surprise. If all were drowned it would constitute the worst maritime disaster in Mexican history, they said.

First reports of the disaster came from Capt. Sabino Ortiz whose fishing boat went aground after five of his seven crewmen had been washed overboard.

"The waves were so high," Ortiz said, "I took us two hours to reach the beach. Twenty-one other boats just disappeared and I'm sure all aboard them were lost."

The family cat may not be as closely related to the tiger in the zoo as he has been believed. Blood tests show that the cheetah shows a 78 per cent relationship, while the tiger showed only a 60 per cent relationship.